

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A surround for attachment to a fireplace, comprising:
 - first and second side members formed from a molded material;
 - a top member formed from the molded material and extending between the first and second side members, the top member including a front facing side and a rear facing side in a spaced apart relationship, the top member defining a cavity therein between the front and rear facing sides that is in fluid communication with a vent of the fireplace to collect heated air from the fireplace;
 - a shield member configured to fit within a portion of the cavity, the shield member further configured to direct heated air exhausted from the vent through the cavity;
 - an insulating member placed in the cavity in a position between the shield and the front facing side of the top member and adapted to dissipate heat; and
 - an opening defined by the top member, the opening configured to exhaust the collected air from the cavity.
2. (Original) The surround of claim 1, wherein the first and second side members extend in a substantially vertical direction.
3. (Original) The surround of claim 1, wherein the top member extends in a substantially horizontal direction.
4. (Original) The surround of claim 1, further comprising a lower member extending between the first and second side members at a position vertically below the top member.
5. (Original) The surround of claim 4, wherein the first and second side members and the top member are constructed as a single, monolithic piece.

6. (Original) The surround of claim 5, further comprising an access panel secured to the surround at a position vertically below the lower member.
7. (Original) The surround of claim 6, wherein the access panel is removably secured to the surround by at least one fastener.
8. (Original) The surround of claim 1, wherein the opening defined by the top member includes at least two distinct openings.
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Original) The surround of claim 1, further comprising a connector configured to secure the surround to the fireplace.
11. (Original) The surround of claim 1, wherein the molded material includes a ceramic fiber and a binder.
12. (Previously Presented) A fireplace, comprising:
 - a heat source configured to generate heated air;
 - a vent for exhausting the heated air outside the fireplace; and
 - a fireplace surround, the surround including:
 - first and second side members formed from a molded material;
 - a top member formed from the molded material and extending between the first and second side members, the top member including a front facing side and a rear facing side in a spaced apart relationship, the top member defining a cavity therein between the front and rear facing sides, that is in fluid communication with the heated air exhausted from the vent;
 - a shield member configured to fit within a portion of the cavity, the shield member further configured to direct heated air exhausted from the vent through the cavity;

an insulating member configured to fit within a portion of the cavity between the shield and the front facing side of the top member and adapted to dissipate heat; and

an opening defined by the top member, the opening configured to exhaust the heated air from the cavity.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The surround of claim 12, wherein the top member is positioned vertically above the combustion chamber.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A fireplace surround, comprising:

a molded first member having first and second sides in a spaced apart relationship and an opening extending between the first and second sides;

a cavity formed within the first member between the first and second sides, the opening providing access to the cavity;

a shield member configured to fit within a portion of the cavity, the shield member further configured to direct heated air through the cavity; and

an insulating member positioned in the cavity of the first member between the shield and the second side and adapted to dissipate heat;

wherein the first side is configured to be positioned adjacent to a vent of the fireplace so that heated air exhausted from the fireplace vent moves through the opening.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The surround of claim 17, wherein the first member is molded from a material that includes a ceramic fiber and a binder.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)
22. (Previously Presented) A method of forming a fireplace surround for attachment to a fireplace, the method comprising the steps of:
 - forming a first member from a molded material, the first member being configured for positioning adjacent to a vent of the fireplace and including a front facing side and a rear facing side, the front and rear facing sides in a spaced apart relationship;
 - and
 - forming an opening in the first member that extends through the first member from the rear facing side to the front facing side;
 - forming a cavity within the first member, wherein the opening provides access to the cavity; and
 - positioning an insulating member in the cavity adapted to dissipate heat;
 - wherein heated air exhausted from the fireplace vent moves through the opening in the first member and contacts the insulating member.
23. (Cancelled)
24. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of forming first and second side members from the molded material and orienting the first and second side members along vertical sides of the fireplace.
25. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of forming a lower member and orienting the lower member horizontally across a lower portion of the fireplace.
26. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of orienting the first member horizontally across an upper portion of the fireplace.
27. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of forming an access panel configured for attachment to the surround at a location below the lower member.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising the step of releasably securing the access panel to the surround with a fastener.
29. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the step of forming an opening includes forming at least two openings in the first member that each extend through the first member.
30. (Cancelled)
31. (Original) The surround of claim 22, wherein the step of forming the first member includes compression molding the first member from a molded material that includes a ceramic fiber and a binder.
32. (Original) The surround of claim 22, wherein the step of forming the first member includes vacuum molding the first member from a molded material that includes a ceramic fiber and a binder.
33. (Cancelled)